

Year 4 Curriculum Newsletter

Summer Term 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians,

This term, the children in Year 4 will be covering all aspects of the National Curriculum including:

Mathematics

During this term our maths work will cover the units: Decimals, money, time, statistics, angles, 2D shapes and position and direction. Alongside this the children will also be working on problem solving and learning to recall quickly all the multiplication tables.

English

This term in our English lessons we will be covering the following units:

Fiction: Create settings, characters and plot, stories from other cultures

Non-Fiction: Speech writing, letter writing, biographical writing, recount writing, diary entries, non-chronological reports.

Poetry: Riddles, limericks and kennings.

As well as this, we will be continuing to develop our reading and comprehension skills, and applying our current and new spelling, punctuation and grammar knowledge throughout the curriculum.

Science

During this term, in our 'Sound' unit will teach the children about how vibrations cause sounds and how sounds travel, as well as how sounds can change pitch and loudness. The children will work scientifically and collaboratively to investigate the best material for soundproofing, in the context of making a music studio quieter. During our 'Animals including humans' topic, we learn all about the digestive system in humans and animals and the functions of teeth. We will learn more about herbivores, carnivores and omnivores in the context of teeth, digestion and the food chain. In addition to this, the children will extend their understanding of food chains to more complex chains and food webs.

Cross-curricular Work

Our cross-curricular topic this term is Incredible Egyptians. The children will learn about how and where the ancient Egyptians lived, what was important to the daily lives of ancient Egyptians and who Tutankhamun was. The children will also learn about how Egyptian people used hieroglyphs to communicate and compare the powers of different gods. We will visit Durham Oriental Museum to handle real ancient Egyptian artefacts and learn how mummies were made.

Design and Technology

During our Design Technology lessons, we will be studying the shaduf (shadoof) and about its importance to the ancient Egyptians. They will design and make their own version of a shaduf to extract water from a water source.

Art and Design

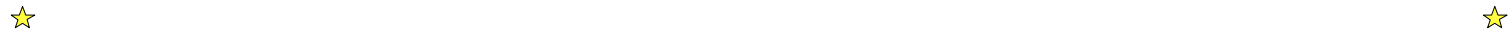
Our art work will take place through our Incredible Egyptians topic. We will teach the children about how to use a pencil, pen and charcoal, how to make clay faces and model in paper and papier-mâché to create quality art work that shows progression in their skills. The children will also have the opportunity to explore the work of Leger, Hockney and a photograph taken by Man Ray.

Personal, Social, Health Education

Our topics in PSHE this term are Relationships and Feelings. We will also be continuing our work on 'Great Dream', completing our Godfrey and Lucinda unit of work on Staying Safe and continuing our work about being Mindful.

Religious Education

In RE, this term, we will be studying: beliefs and practices by finding out about the five pillars of Islam and why they are important for Muslims.



Physical Education

We will be covering aspects of athletics, focusing upon running and throwing events; and striking and fielding games focussing on cricket skills.

Indoor PE shoes must be non-marking. When the children go outside to do PE, a hooded jacket/jumper will also be allowed.

PE usually takes place on a Tuesday afternoon, however PE kits should be in school on a Monday in case any last minute changes are made.

Computing

The children will complete a unit of work called, Dinosaurs. In this unit, the children will make their own summer blockbuster and they will learn all about filming techniques and storytelling skills. They will also take part in a series of Minecraft Challenges which will challenge the children's mathematical thinking. They will also take part in a number of creative challenges based around the Harry Potter books.

Music

Our music lessons will take place through our Incredible Egyptians topic. During our music lessons, children will learn to keep a steady pulse to recorded music and songs. The children will learn about repeated patterns and perform using tuned instruments. Children will also explore different sounds of instruments and will learn how music can fit together in layers by singing and playing with a drone accompaniment, and by fitting together two parts of a round.

Homework

Homework will be given out on **Friday** and is to be returned on **Wednesday** morning ready for marking.

The children have been given a table of activities based on our topic - Ancient Egyptians. Each week, the children can chose one activity to complete. **The children are encouraged to only complete an activity once have learnt about the content in their lessons. Please date colour the activity once it is complete. The children have also been encouraged to challenge themselves!** Doing their homework this way, will allow the children to choose tasks that interest them and tasks that suit their learning style.

A spelling list has been given which covers the spellings for the term. Children are expected to practise the spellings daily. Weekly spelling activities will be given on the homework header. Where possible, the spelling test will take place every Wednesday afternoon.

A new Reading Table of activities has been given to the children to help focus their reading comments. These are glued into their reading cords. One task should be completed per week as well as two reading comments recorded in their reading records. **Please colour the activity once it is completed and complete the reading task in the reading record.** We will be checking reading records every Wednesday along with homework books, children who have completed a reading activity as well as the reading comments will receive 'Callaghan Coins/Davis Dollars' which can be exchanged for a prize of their choice.

Children are also expected to learn their times tables. Times table practise sheets or times table activities will be given weekly. These can also be practised using the Soundcheck on Times tables Rockstars or using the following website <https://mathsframe.co.uk/en/resources/resource/477/Multiplication-Tables-Check>. Times tables challenges will be used in school to help children with rapid recall of these facts. **By the end of year 4, children are expected to be able to quickly recall their all their times table facts in any order.**

We would appreciate it if you could check your child's homework before it is returned to school.

If you have any questions or if you would like to support us in school, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Many Thanks from the Year 4 Team
Mrs Callaghan and Mr Davis

